

VOL. 4 JUNE NO. 1

Montana Wildlife

46th Anniversary
Edition

TROUT WATERS
OF THE
BLACKFOOT

PHOTO BY
PAUL J. FAIR

Lost---Somewhere In Montana

By Charles Bowman Hutchins in "Yellowstone Nature Notes."



I LOST a prescription for greying my hair,
I lost most a million small pains here and there,
I lost my spring fever and hay fever, too,
I lost my big paint brush for painting things blue.

I LOST my bad luck and the drag in my step,
I lost a poor appetite and lack of pep,
I lost my keen nerves, tired back, tired eyes,
I lost a sick headache and spasmodyc sighs.

SOMEWHERE in the mountains right near a small stream
Or under a pine tree ('twas just like a dream).
The camp birds were spying and flying that day—
I wonder if they could have stole them away.

THAT big mountain trout I caught swallowed my hook;
I wonder—did he also swallow a book
With a list of the troubles and worries and pains
I took to the mountains when leaving the plains?

WHEN I left the hot city—the office and all—
Just to spend a few days where the purple hills call,
Far, far from my work and my mailman and phone,
I lost these possessions I once called my own.

I'LL go back to the city and find them once more,
Then next summer lose them Out West as before.
But the strange thing about it that puzzles me so
Is this—I can't find them where I let them go.

I ALSO can't lose them just where they were found;
That's why I go fishing when summer comes round,
To lose all my troubles and find my real self,
And bring back my pep and my vision and health.



MONTANA WILD LIFE

The Official Publication of The State Fish and Game Commission

VOL. IV

HELENA, MONTANA, JUNE, 1931

No. 1

Trout for Landlocked Mountain Lakes



K. F. MacDonald

MIRRORED lakes of Montana, in the mountains where crystal pure water prevails, will be stocked with trout from the 14 state fish hatcheries, if plans of the commission and Kenneth F. MacDonald, state superintendent of fisheries, prevail. Hundreds of these little lakes can be reached only by pack horse and many only by strong men laden with packs on their backs. Yet because of civilization constantly chasing back the wooded wilderness, the state commission is preparing for the future.

Hi Larsen of Trout Creek, Montana, has written an interesting letter to Thomas N. Marlowe, chairman of the state commission, outlining his experiences in packing cans of eyed eggs to these mountain lakes in virgin territory, and asks for additional eggs.

"If more of the sportsmen of Montana would do this kind of work, hunting and fishing conditions in the state would certainly be better," replied Chairman Marlowe.

Sportsmen desiring to stock outlying waters with eyed eggs during this season, should advise the foreman of the state hatchery in their district, according to Superintendent MacDonald, as soon as possible in order that arrangements may be made for one of the trained hatchery employes to accompany them and supervise the planting.

The letter of Hi Larsen follows:

"There are nine lakes at the head of Swamp creek, about eight miles above my ranch, and several of these would be good lakes in which to plant fish. Seven of the nine lakes are all above the falls. One of the two remaining lakes has no inlet, and most of the year no outlet. The other lake below the falls has trout in it and the creek runs through it. The falls are in terraces ranging from eight feet to 60 feet or more and make a drop of 400 or 50 feet, so no fish could get above them. This drop occurs within a distance of half a mile or less.

"In 1916 Ed Fitzgerald, of Thompson Falls, and I made a trip up to the lakes, packing our camp equipment and supplies on our backs. There was no trail up the creek at that time. We were on an outing trip and camped

at the big lake five days. During those five days it rained practically all the time. However, the rain did not stop us from scouting and we made two trips to the lower lake and caught trout from six to eight inches in length which we placed in a water bag (with the top ripped open) and a bucket and carried them along the falls so we could keep changing the water to keep the fish alive. In this way we put 40 trout into the big lake. The fish were caught with hook and line, and although all of the revived and swam away we found two or three dead ones a day or two later.

"The big lake is 1,400 yards long and an average of about 450 yards wide. Three streams run into it. There is a small glacier at the upper end. The lake for the most part is deep and while not the best for feed should still support quite a number of fish. The upper end is shallow enough to produce feed, as is also part of the lower end. It is known as Wanless lake.

"In 1928 I again carried fish from the lower lake up to the what is shown on the map as upper lake. There are in reality two lakes and a fine small stream running between them.

"For this trip I used a five-gallon honey can with a large screw top. I made a hole in the top through which I placed a quarter-inch rubber hose. By using an atomizer bulb I kept pumping air into the bottom of the can. The can I put into my pack sack. The climb up is the only way to get up with a five-gallon can of water on one's back, and the slope (between 30 and 40 degrees) was so steep that it was necessary to hold onto the grass and brush, while at the same time

hurrying to avoid loss of fish as far as possible. It was a task a little beyond the strength and endurance of the average man, and entirely beyond the will of 99 per cent of them.

"Last June I went to the lakes and had the pleasure of seeing three trout I had put into the upper lakes grown to a length of 14 or 16 inches.

"There were 28 trout in the lot I took up but when I turned them loose three had smothered in the can. All the rest seemed lively and none the worse for the trip.

"The upper lakes are much better for feed than the big lake. There are three lakes above the big one that will be well suitable for stocking. I have not been to the other lakes, although I have seen them from the mountain peaks above.

"While I was at the lakes last June I did not have much time to spare but looked for small fish or minnows, but failed to find any.

"Now for the object of this letter. Getting these lakes stocked in the way I have described is a hard, uphill job. In fact it is a half-mile straight up.

"I would like to know if you would be willing to supply me with a gallon or two of eyed trout eggs in the spring when the spawning season is on. I will take them up and plant them in suitable places. There will be snow and ice along the way that can be used to keep the eggs cool.

"I shall not want more than the amount of eggs I can carry comfortably with the necessary amount of ice for safe delivery.

"If you will supply these eggs please let me know about what time I can expect to get them. I will try to get someone else interested enough to make the trip with me."

In a recent address delivered before the Great Falls Lions club, Superintendent MacDonald declared that loss of fish through irrigation ditches is one of the greatest problems facing the Montana Fish and Game Commission today. Proper screening of the ditches is almost prohibitive with present funds, he said.

The commission has authorized the installation of three screens in ditches near Billings, McAllister and Lolo and the government plans to investigate the situation in the Sun river west of Great Falls and the Flathead country, according to Mr. MacDonald. A bureau of fisheries representative visited in Great Falls in connection with the local irrigation problem.

Until a few years ago a satisfactory screen to be used in the ditches had not

Commission Meets at Anaconda

MEMBERS of Montana's State Fish and Game Commission met at Anaconda May 28, according to the call sent out by Chairman T. N. Marlowe of Missoula. Matters of import to sportsmen of the state, the spawn-taking and fish planting operations, the plans for more rearing ponds and other questions were brought up for settlement. The sessions were at the Montana Hotel. Members of the Commission are Chairman Marlowe, Joseph L. Kelly of Anaconda, William K. Moore of Billings, E. A. Wilson of Livingston, and W. A. Brown of Great Falls, with Robert H. Hill, State Fish and Game Warden, as secretary. Minutes of the meeting will be published in the July edition of MONTANA WILD LIFE.

been discovered, the culturist said. Congress set aside \$25,000 to be used by the bureau of fisheries in a survey to find a practical screen that would be satisfactory to both farmers and sportsmen. The Oregon type of cylinder screen was decided upon as the most practical. This allows debris to escape without holding up the ordinary flow of water. The cost of these screens, however, has been the chief reason for their not being used more extensively in Montana.

Mr. MacDonald told the Lions that the Georgetown lake spawning station was the largest in the world and that this operation of obtaining eggs assured a fertilization of from 93 to 96 per cent, whereas eastern states relying upon brood stock get only 50 or 60 per cent fertilization.

Due to the present shortage of wa-

ter, caused partly by the lack of undergrowth in the forests or from destruction of forests by fire, the fish culturist said, a deplorable condition has developed. In his opinion the state should in the future be given the right to protect fish life where reserves or projects are established.

The fish food problem is also of paramount importance at the present time, according to Mr. MacDonald. Up to a few years ago beef liver was used for feeding the growing fish, but the sharp increase in the price of this meat made it prohibitive. Then came the range horse slaughter and horse-meat was made use of for a time, but this, too, has practically passed out of existence.

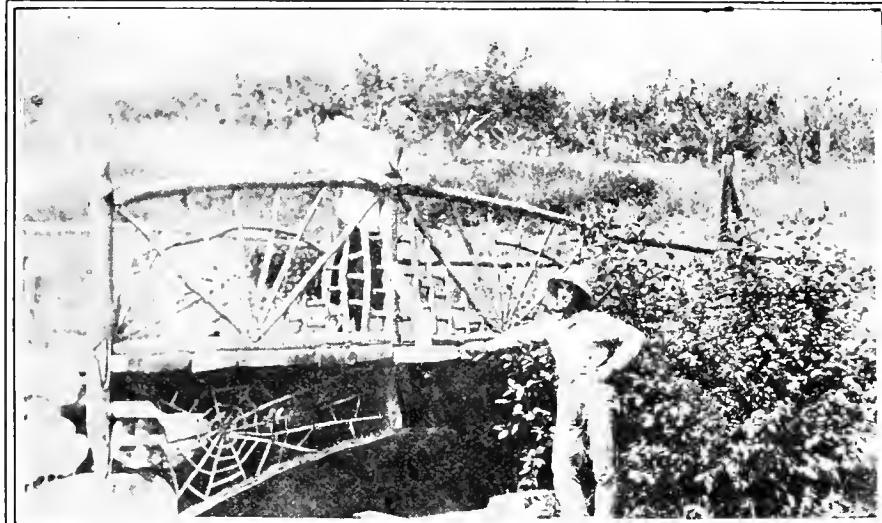
The culturist said the state department and government is now experi-

menting with dried fish and with predatory fish, such as suckers and carp, to determine the relative food value.

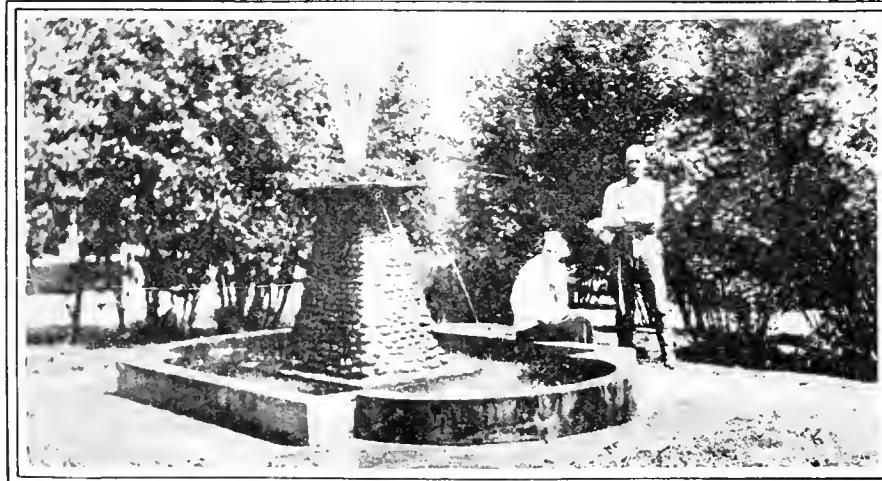
There are 14 hatcheries in the state and their work is handicapped by the lack of sufficient man power to keep them up to the point where they belong, he said. The Great Falls hatchery grounds should be landscaped and many improvements made, but finances prohibit. He said rearing ponds are needed, but a survey should be made first to assure a good location.

Mr. MacDonald urged the co-operation of sportsmen's associations and civic groups in the securing of rearing ponds, installation of fish screens and other needed developments. The proper sale of the \$5 Sportsman's License will, he said, provide additional funds for this work.

State Hatcheries Being Beautified



RUSTIC BRIDGE BUILT BY MR. MELTON AT SOMERS HATCHERY



FOUNTAIN OF NATIVE ROCK MADE BY ELI MELTON AT SOMERS FISH HATCHERY



FOUNTAIN PLAYING IN PARK AT SCENIC HATCHERY AT SOMERS, MAINTAINED BY THE STATE FISH & GAME DEPARTMENT

Prairie Chicken May Follow Heath Hen



HE last heath hen, the sole survivor of a once abundant race in the north Atlantic states, still roams the scrub-oak plains of Martha's Vineyard. Under the auspices of the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Game, Dr. Alfred O. Gross of Bowdoin College, Maine, again studied and photographed this lonely but sagacious old male during the week of March 30 to April 4, 1931.

On April 1, during a downpour of rain, the wary old fellow was trapped, photographed and banded. Two bands were attached, one of aluminum (number 407,880) on the left leg, and one of copper (number A-634,024) on the right leg, so that if he is killed and his legs scattered by some predator the bands will serve as a means of positive identification.

This bird seemed to like the history-recording operations so well that he returned to the blind the very next day and gave the observers another chance to make additional moving pictures. Dr. Gross estimates the age of this bird as at least seven years, and says that the bird was in fine condition but that it uttered no booming challenge to attract a mate.

It is truly remarkable that this bird has escaped his many enemies so long. In 1924 the last young were seen. In April of that year 54 birds were observed. In spite of combined efforts of various agencies, there were but 13 in 1927, only two of which were females. That autumn only seven birds appeared, and in April, 1928, only three males were seen on the ancestral booming grounds. Then another disappeared, two were reported regularly until December 8, 1928, since which time only one bird has been observed.

Ornithologists now agree that the heath hen is merely the eastern cousin of the prairie chicken such as once were prolific in Montana, and that they are not separate and distinct species. Unless the cousins of the prairies are safeguarded properly they too may become an ornithological curiosity in a comparatively few years.

The last heath hen on earth is fated to remain the loneliest bachelor on earth, despite pleas of sentimental match-makers for "just any sort of companion" to brighten his old age. No mate waited to greet him on the ancestral booming field of his tribe, a meadow near West Tisbury. Nor did he seem to expect one, for he did not boom or strut. He has not gone through his queer courtship antics since the spring of 1929, when, as the only heath hen living, his repeated performances went unnoticed—except by

Montana Wild Life Has Birthday

WITH this edition, MONTANA WILD LIFE, official publication of the State Fish and Game Department, marks the opening of its fourth year. During the last three years a sincere effort has been made to make the magazine the connecting link between sportsmen of the state and the commission, to distribute authentic information and in addition to serving in this manner in the state, the magazine has likewise attained a position of esteem throughout the nation. Sportsmen who read MONTANA WILD LIFE know where their license fee is being spent. Minutes of commission meetings are published, plans for protection and propagation of wild life of the state are discussed, scientific and practical articles are featured. This progress has been made possible by sportsmen whose names have been placed on the mailing list at \$1 per year, less than the cost of distribution.

photographers, bird students and curious tourists watching from ambush.

"Many earnest requests have been received that the last heath hen be given a female prairie chicken or some other near relative as a mate," said Prof. Gross, who for a number of years has conducted the annual heath hen census for the Massachusetts division of fisheries and game.

"Past experience has proved that this would be useless," he said. "When frantic efforts were being made to save these once extremely numerous New England birds from extinction, after they had disappeared everywhere except on Martha's Vineyard Island, their middle western prairie cousins were introduced in large numbers, but immediately died off. This family of birds is not adaptable to new or changing environment. For this reason the heath hen's fate can be predicted for the prairie chicken in the not distant future unless protected refuges are established."

Trying to Beat the Barrier at the Traps



HUGE Montana trout, when answering the age-old urge to spawn, fight and battle their way up the creeks to deposit their eggs. Artificial spawn taking, however, has proved more successful than the natural where the eggs are constantly beset by natural enemies. Montana has five spawn-taking stations in the mouths of these spawning creeks, including the largest trout spawn-taking station in the world at Flint creek on Georgetown lake. The big feller in the forefront of the picture is taking a leap at the barrier at the trap at the spawn-taking station in the same manner as he would attempt to leap up natural falls in his route up stream. Game fish are not injured in artificial spawning and are returned to the waters in prime condition. The photo is by Paul J. Fair.

Million A Year To Kill Predatory Animals



THE ten-year program of predatory-animal and rodent control, authorized by the last congress will make more effective the control work as already organized, rather than stimulate new lines, according to officials of the Bureau of Biological Survey, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Biological Survey activity in predator and rodent control, it is pointed out, has been encouraged by co-operating agencies which have provided funds far in excess of federal appropriations.

Co-operative control operations have been dependent upon annual appropriations. Congress now puts the work on a long-term basis, and authorizes appropriations of \$1,000,000 annually. The increased appropriations become available July 1, 1932, because the last congress adjourned before the increased funds could be made available.

On federal lands the ten-year program contemplates continued co-operation by the Biological Survey with the Forest Service, the Indian Service, and with other agencies. The national forests include more than 16,000,000 acres of land, infested with rodents, principally prairie dogs and ground squirrels. Prairie dogs destroy from 20 to 80 per cent of the succulent forage grasses near their towns. The ten-year program plans the eradication of

Springtime

If thou the beauty of Spring do'st seek,
Deem not from serve this treasure to
reap,
But hie you away to some woodland
scene
Where a brook finds its way through
valleys of green,
Singing paeons of praise to Spring on
its way
Who so kindly fended its cruel cap-
tor away.

Here do we find the hillsides adorned
With blossoms which Winter's dying
breath scorned;
And many a songster already we meet
While Winter has yet scarce made his
retreat.
Thus do we find Spring's glories unveiled
With beauty that words to unfold
would have failed.

prairie dogs where they are seriously competing with livestock.

In many of the eastern states, also, increased efforts will be exerted for the control of rodents. Additional funds will permit Biological Survey leadership in organized work for the control of such rodents as cotton rats in the South, of pine mice and pocket gophers, and of the common brown rat.

which is probably the most destructive of all animals.

Coyotes breed in the national forests and on the public domain. Control operations have been limited by current appropriations. The ten-year program contemplates adequate control, so as to reduce to the minimum the infestation of adjacent stock-grazing areas. At present, satisfactory control of the large predators on livestock ranges is not possible.

The Biological Survey strives to make clear that the established policy of the bureau in this economic field is one of control rather than complete eradication of any species.

"The Survey," as Stanley P. Young, in charge of the bureau's Division of Predatory Animal and Rodent Control, said recently, "is not embarked upon a general exterminating program, but with every proper consideration for conservation interests it has as its objective in this field the adequate local control of injurious mammals. Only by such control can the burdensome losses suffered by farmers and stock raisers be reduced to the minimum and beneficial forms of wild life protected from undue destruction by their natural enemies. Though this policy in some cases may mean local extirpation of harmful forms, it will not result in the complete eradication of any species that adds interest to the wild when far removed from industrial operations."

Dinner Time for MONTANA DEER



BIG CREEK RANGER STATION
BLACKFEET FOREST WHERE WINTER
FEEDING OF DEER IS CARRIED ON.



DEER ARE TAME AS DOMESTICATED
STOCK AT FEEDING TIME IN WINTER



DINNER TIME AT BIG CREEK
RANGER STATION

Trumpeter Swan Soon A Memory



ONTANA'S State Fish and Game Department has preserved for posterity, moving pictures of a nesting pair of Trumpeter Swans taken at Red Rock lakes after hours of effort put forth by Paul J. Fair, photographer employed by the commission. These valuable historical pictures have been loaned to the State Sportsmen's Association and are now being shown to clubs, school and fraternal organizations throughout the state.

The passing of the Trumpeter Swan, the largest game bird of the continent, is akin to the passing of the buffalo and the antelope. At one time this graceful bird was plentiful along the Rocky Mountains. Now there are but comparatively few remaining in the United States, and the photographer has been fortunate in finding a nesting pair, as well as their nest, in Montana. These reels have aroused keen interest throughout the nation.

Edward Howe Forbush, eminent naturalist, has written an interesting history of the Trumpeter Swan, which appeared in "Birds of America" of the Nature Lovers' Library in 1919. He writes:

The Trumpeter Swan, the largest of North American wild fowl, represents a vanishing race. In most parts of North America it is a bird of the past. Formerly it ranged over the greater portion of the continent. Today it is seen rather rarely in the wilder regions of the interior.

Great flights of swans were observed by the early settlers on the Atlantic seaboard from Maine to Georgia. No one knows what proportion of these were Trumpeters, but, as the Trumpeter was recorded on the Atlantic coast as late as the last half of the nineteenth century, there is some reason for the belief that some of the early flocks were of this species. It was once the prevailing swan of California and was abundant in Oregon and Washington, but it has not practically disappeared from the Pacific coast. It always was a bird of the fresh waters and did not, like the Whistling Swan, often frequent salt water bays and estuaries. When the country was first settled, the Trumpeter bred in the northern United States, and from there northward to the fresh-water lakes and ponds in the vicinity of Hudson Bay, where it was very numerous, and even to the shores of the Arctic Ocean.

Little is known about the breeding habits of this bird, but, like the Canada Goose, the male guards and defends the female, eggs, and young.

In autumn when the grip of the frost congealed the surface of its native lakes and streams the Trumpeter gathered in mighty flocks, circled high in air and moved southward in great flights using

Montana's Trumpeter Swan

Olor Buccinator (Richardson)

Description—Larger than whistling swan; nostrils midway between tip of bill and eyes. Adults: Plumage pure white or with wash of rusty on head; bill lores and feet black; iris brown. Young: Bill and feet not perfectly black; plumage, grayish; head and upper neck, rusty. Length, five feet. Nest and Eggs: Nest on an elevated knoll near water; constructed of grass, stalks, feathers and down. Eggs 5 to 7, dull white.

Distribution: Interior and western North America; breeds from the Rocky Mountains to western shore of Hudson bay and from the Arctic Ocean to about latitude 60; formerly bred south to Indiana, Missouri, Nebraska, Montana and Idaho, and casually west to Fort Yukon and British Columbia; winters from southern Indiana and southern Illinois south to Texas and from southern British Columbia to southern California; casual in migration in the Rocky Mountain region of the United States; accidental in New York and Delaware. Now of rare occurrence nearly everywhere.

The reason for the rapid decrease of the Trumpeter is not far to seek. It is the largest and most conspicuous of waterfowl. Wherever, in settled regions, swans were seen to alight, every kind of a firearm that could do duty was requisitioned and all men turned out to hunt the great white birds. They were not much safer in the almost uninhabited north, as the demands of civilization pursued them there. The records of the traffic in swans' down tell the story of decrease in the territory of the Hudson Bay Company. Just previous to the middle of the nineteenth century about five hundred swans' skins were traded annually at Isle a la Crosse and about three hundred were taken yearly at Fort Anderson. These were mainly skins of the Trumpeter Swan. The number sold annually by the company slowly decreased from 1,312 in 1854 to 122 in 1877. In 1853, Athabasca turned out 251, in 1889 only 33. In 1889 and 1890 Isle a la Crosse sent out but two skins for each outfit. (Preble, North American Fauna.) So the demands of fashion and the blood lust will follow the Trumpeter to the end.

the V-shaped formation so characteristic of migrating Canada geese. This is written in the past tense as there are no longer any great flights of the species. Then, as now, the Mississippi valley was a highway of bird migration and there, at times, in autumn, when the icy north wind blew, the sunset sky was overcast by clouds of waterfowl moving in dim strata near and far, in varying lines, crossing, converging, ascending, descending, but all trending southward toward waters as yet untouched by the frost. The rushing of their wings and their musical cries filled the air with a chorus of unrelated sounds, blending in rough harmonies. Above them all, in the full light of the setting sun great flocks of cranes passed along the sky, and higher still in the glowing firmament rode the long "baseless triangles" of the swans, sweeping across the upper air in exalted and unswerving flight, spanning a continent with the speed of the wind, their forms glistening like silver in the sunset glow. They presented the most impressive spectacle in bird life ever seen in North America. When at last they found their haven of rest they circled with many hoarse trumpeting in wide spirals from that giddy height reconnoitering the country as they swung lower and lower until, their apprehensions at rest, they sailed slowly down to drink, bathe, feed, and rest on quiet, peaceful waters.

Swans feed almost entirely by reaching down in shallow water and pulling up the vegetation from the bottom with the bill. Animal food such as shellfish is taken to some extent, mainly in the spring.

FISHING WITH BOW AND ARROW

We are in receipt of an article appearing in "The Commercial Appeal" of Memphis, which is too long to reproduce verbatim, but which brings up a rather interesting pastime—that of archery as a sport to promote better fishing. The article goes on to state that Thomas Mull of Holly Grove, Ark., one-time archery champion of the south, effectively uses the bow and arrow in fishing for gars, so effectively in fact that last year he killed 1,264, his largest being 7 feet 2 inches long and weighing 165 pounds.

Mr. Mull uses an Osage orange bow and a pine-shafted steelhead arrow. "He attaches a stont cord to the head, runs it along the shaft of the arrow to the feathers, then through a hole to the end of the shaft."

It is said that the government statistics show that one gar will eat six game fish a day, and this predatory fish control should not only furnish sport for the archers but also better sport for the fishermen.

ISSUE 76,653 DEER LICENSES

The 1931 season saw the largest number of deer hunters in Michigan's history. The Conservation department reported that 74,653 resident, non-resident and camp deer hunting licenses were sold last fall. It has been estimated that about one out of every four hunters got his deer. The number of deer hunting licenses issued last fall is an increase of approximately ten per cent over the 1929 figure. In that year the department reported 68,011 licenses sold.

Montana Fish and

W. A. BROWN, Great Falls...Commissioner
Jos. L. KELLY, Anaconda...Commissioner

T. N. MARLOWE, Missoula, Chairman



Game Commission

W. K. MOORE, Billings...Commissioner
E.A.WILSON, Livingston...Commissioner

R. H. HILL, Helena, State Fish and Game Warden, Secretary

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VOL. IV

JUNE, 1931

NO. 1

FISHIN' TIME IN MONTANA

FISSHIN' time is here. There's something magical about goin' fishin'. The barefoot boy, with meager equipment, can conjure up as lurid a picture of anticipated catch as the most expert wielder of the rod and reel. Thrill and joy of battle exists in both. Fishing is a neutral ground. It is there that all caste is forgotten; all thoughts of pride and nobility done away with; the rich and humble, the meek and low, meet under the canopy of God's heaven to mix and rub shoulders in a common cause. Goin' fishin'. Indeed, a magical, compelling alluring term.

The very extremes of humanity; the very extremes of fortune may meet on the bank of a fishing stream and they immediately become brothers. It is God's plan—getting back to nature; a closer communion of fellow beings in a common sense.

Whether our efforts meet with success or not—whether we retrace our footsteps homeward towards night with 'nary a proof of our efforts or a satisfying "string" of speckled beauties—the latter does not signify always that knowledge of the art is paramount. Perseverance may come in for a goodly share of the honor. The element of luck—fickle goddess of chance—may have played a part. Don't be too sure of your prowess. Don't think for a moment that you may be the world's best angler. Remember this:

Oh it's lovely when they're striking
And they're hungry and they're fine
And they strike and keep on striking
On your hook and on your line.

But the chap who's worth the praising—
One who's kept the record right,
Is the chap who keeps on fishin'
When—the—fish—don't—bite.

When something has to be done we usually find a way to do it.

RANCH OWNERS KNOW THEIR "DUDES"

"DUDE" ranchers have balked at changing their name "guest" ranchers. The Arizona Dude Ranch Association recently recorded its emphatic opinion that it should keep "the west western—and dudes dudes." It reached this decision, however, in an up-to-date fashion which may have seemed strange to the old west. The ranchers discussed the word's "psychological effect" on their visitors, and held that "city fellows get a kick out of being called dudes."

From the same modern scientific angle they discussed the attraction value of other ranch accessories, going on record "for the conservation and preservation of parks and forests and the wise conservation and protection of the wild life therein."

TROUT IS NO GADABOUT

AN INTERESTING sidelight on the tagging of game fish adopted by the Montana State Fish and Game Department at the spawn-taking stations at Lake Francis near Valier and the great station at the mouth of Flint creek at Georgetown lake, comes from Wisconsin, where similar tests are being made. These tests are intended to show the growth of the trout during certain periods, its travel range and other valuable scientific data.

Although a world of travel may be open to him for the mere effort of swimming, Mr. Trout is no gadabout. In fact, he is pretty much of a stay-at-home, to judge from tests made by the Wisconsin conservation department.

Of a number of trout caught, tagged and returned to Wisconsin streams, nearly all were recaptured from one of several weeks later within a quarter of a mile from the original spot. Many of them had not moved at all from their favored bit of water.

This was said to be the first of a series of experiments to determine the value of fish refuges similar to wild life refuges on land. Wisconsin already has many fish spawning sanctuaries, and recently established 96 more for trout, bass, pike and pickerel.

Rome wasn't built in a day, nor are conservation reforms brought about by opinionated fogies who can't brook anybody's opinion but their own. The bulk of reasonable sportsmen will bring about reasonable changes if you give them time.

MALE PHEASANT IS DUMBER

THOUGH the male of the pheasant species may be the stronger, he is not the wiser when it comes to facing blizzards, according to Oscar Johnson, head of the South Dakota Conservation Department.

"The hen pheasant will tuck her head under her wing and run for shelter immediately," Mr. Johnson reported to the American Game Association. "But the cock pheasant will keep his head in the air and battle it out. As a result hundreds of pheasants have died this winter of frozen, ice-clogged mouths."

Recommendation has been made to the Ontario legislature by the Ontario Hunters' Game Protective Association that 15 minutes a week be added to school curricula for the purpose of giving instruction in connection with the conservation of wild life.

OREGON HAS MANY PROBLEMS

ATTENTION was recently called to two diametrically opposite court decisions on the West Coast. Oregon has taken steps to correct her situation by removing the stigma from the sportsmen of her state. The new law gives the governor the right to close danger fire hazard areas "to all users of the forests," except by special permit. The new law also defines the distance from forests within which brush and other debris may be burned as one-eighth of a mile, instead of merely prohibiting burning "adjacent to" a forest.

Another important measure went into the waste basket because the governor vetoed it. That measure, passed by the House by a vote of 54 to 6, and by the Senate by a vote of 20 to 9, provided that the state game commission should be kept out of politics and that four of the five members of the commission were to be appointed by the governor from a list recommended by the State Game Protective Association, the State Izaak Walton League, the State Grange, and the State Forest Fire Association, the governor to select the fifth.

Power of removal was to be vested in the governor "for cause after hearing upon charges filed in writing," the position so made vacant to be filled upon recommendation of the organization responsible for the original appointment.

MONTANA WILD LIFE

MODERN DIANAS FLOCK TO WOODS

CITY Dianas are going back to the woods. Women by the thousands are turning nimrods, and the rough sport of hunting in some circles isn't what it used to be. The rule prevails in Montana as well as in many older states. More than 3,000 women hunted in Pennsylvania this year. An increase in the number of feminine sportsmen drew comment in news statements from several other states. In Michigan a wife from Battle Creek achieved doubtful equality by dropping a deer before obtaining a license. Her husband refused to assume responsibility and she paid a fine of \$50 and costs.

The flocking of modern women to the woods is coincident with a new era touched with luxury in certain fields of the sport. Hunting lodges have sprung up all over the country in the wake of finer roads. Most big game sections, no matter how rugged, can now be reached in comfortable automobiles. Shacks of former years have been followed by substantial log or stone cabins with great fireplaces and often electric lighting systems powered by nearby streams. Frame bunks have given way to soft cots. High-class camp chefs are at a premium. The average layman can indulge in the luxury of hunting today in the same manner as his richer cousins on the moors of Scotland.

The remarkable thing in this situation is that states can furnish game for the annually increasing horde of hunters armed with modern equipment, easy transportation and many comforts. How to keep pace with growing interest in this outdoor recreation is the big problem of conservationists today.

Conservation requires united effort on the part of the National and State Governments, and individual conservationists, supported by an aroused public sentiment.

PHEASANT CHASES CAT

COMES now the pheasant to join the rabbit, who, getting a sip of "cawn likker," spit in the bulldog's face; the worm, also imbibing of cawn, who strangled the big black bass to death—the pheasant was in a corn field, too! Whether the fermenting corn in the shock had anything to do with this odd reversal of nature the report sayeth not. The pheasant, according to Game Protectors J. H. Noonan and R. J. Vickers, of the New York Conservation Department, was in a corn shock in a field on the banks of the Mohawk river near Albany, and saw a large thomas cat stalking something in the grass.

That was too much for the cock pheasant. He charged through the equivalent of swinging doors—long leaves of corn—and bore down on the astonished cat. Thomas high-tailed it away from there, vaulted into high grass and disappeared.

"A combination of English Jay is one of the most effective flies in the world, as it can be put into as gay a fly as you please, and also into as plain a one as you like."—Capt. Peel ("Dinks").

GAME ON STARVATION BASIS

AN average of only a half cent an acre is being spent annually in America to provide hunting and fishing—in spite of the startling facts that hunters and anglers have increased 400 per cent in the last decade, that they are spending \$650,000,000 a year to take game and fish, and that their sports bring more money into many states than does any other single industry, according to Seth Gordon, president of the American Game Association.

Mr. Gordon declares that the best financed state is spending only five cents an acre yearly, while the poorest financed state is devoting to fish and game work only one-seventieth of a cent an acre.

All the annual expenditure in this field, both state and federal, amounts to just \$12,000,000, a starvation ration on which the wild life of this country, especially as to game birds, fish and waterfowl, has failed to hold its own against industries operated along sounder business lines.

He claims that unless five times this amount can be obtained in some manner game will surely lose in the struggle, and with it sports which give healthful recreation to a large percentage of the people and directly or indirectly benefit every person in the country.

DEER PROBLEM IS UP AGAIN

IN 1925 a group of distinguished conservation leaders studied the mule deer herd on the Kaibab National Forest in northern Arizona. A number of the recommendations made have been put to work, with beneficial results. Beginning June 8 another and larger inspection committee will make a study of the situation to note the changes in the six-year interim, and to make further recommendations.

The party will consist of representatives of the American Bison Society, the American Forestry Association, the American Game Association, the American National Livestock Association, the Arizona Game and Fish Commission, the Camp Fire Club of America, the Izaak Walton League, the National Association of Audubon Societies, and the U. S. Biological Survey, the Forest Service and the National Park Service.

The representative of the American Game Association will be George D. Pratt, a member of the board of directors and chairman of the association's executive committee. The findings of this committee should aid materially to bring together the conflicting views of groups interested in the welfare of the deer herd as well as the forest itself.

It tells a good deal about a man's home life if he orders rice pudding and home-made cake at a lunch counter.

Never try to bring home a cub bear as a vacation souvenir unless you are positive that the cub bear's mother is several townships distant.

No civilization is complete which does not include the dumb and defenseless of God's creatures within the sphere of charity and mercy.—Elbert Hubbard.

WILD LIFE IS FAST PASSING OUT

"THOSE who search the report of the Senate Committee on Wild-Life Conservation, expecting to discover the latest official information about wild animals, fishes, birds and game of all kinds will not be disappointed," says an editorial in the New York Times. "Senator Walcott and his associates are disturbed about the present outlook. They report that wild life of various kinds is rapidly disappearing. They want the states, under the leadership of the federal government, to do something about it.

"It is a timely suggestion. Golf players and baseball fans may be surprised to learn that they are outnumbered many times over by hunters and fishermen, but the Nimrods know it, and so do the license clerks and gun-makers. The committee estimates that there are not less than thirteen million active sportsmen in the United States. This would mean that when the open seasons come, about one in ten of the population is out with rod or gun. The figure checks rather remarkably with the latest report of the New York Conservation Commission, which places the number in this state at one million.

"Interest in out-of-doors and all it contains has increased enormously since the war. The automobile has carried millions of stay-at-homes afield. Statistics of national park and tourist camp attendance tell their own story. 'The invigorating and recreational value of wild life are difficult to estimate in dollars,' says the committee. It might find more than a hint of their purely commercial value in the chapter on 'Consumption and Leisure' in the report of the President's committee on 'Recent Economic Changes.' Perhaps the learned economists themselves were surprised to learn to what extent industry in post-war America is dependent on the use of leisure, including sport. Even enforced leisure plays its part when the plumber out of a job takes down his gun and goes hunting.

"The more rods and guns, the less fish and game, unless the state intervenes. Some of the states do intervene, effectively. Deer in the Catskills, for example, are on the increase. Other states are slack about it. Perhaps they do not realize the importance, economically as well as socially, of wild-life conservation. The senate committee may help to make them realize it. If so, it will have done a useful public service. In its efforts directed to that end it can count on the support of a host of sportsmen and conservationists the country over—men and boys who want to have their fish and eat it too."

Farmers Favor Sportsman's License



Senator Tower

Tower of Lake county at Polson.

"Popularity of the idea extended in the Montana Sportsman's License, authorized by the last session of the legislature, is growing so rapidly in this area," writes Senator Tower, "that the farmers are falling in line. I have met several land owners who have made application for the \$5 Sportsman's License. They have informed me that they will not permit hunting or fishing on their land unless the applicant is the holder of one of these documents of honor, called The Sportsman's License. The farmers realize that the \$5 document signifies that the holder has done something more than his share toward aid in maintaining the wild life of our state, and they are predicting that we will see fewer "NO HUNTING ALLOWED" signs this fall than ever before when lovers of the out of doors show something more than a selfish interest. Fish and game are prevalent on the land of the farmer, yet he pays the same license fee as the city sportsman. With the opportunity presented in The Sportsman's License to add a little more than the required \$3 the farmers are willing to co-operate with the sportsmen and the State Fish and Game Department.

"The \$5 Sportsman's License adopted in Montana is the only fishing and hunting document of its kind in use in the nation. Montana, as usual, is pioneering in its fish and game conservation activities and already hundreds have expressed their desire to co-operate with the department. The Sportsman's License, printed on white linen in three colors, with the new elk and deer tags attached, and with a windshield sticker provided, extends to the holder all the privileges of hunting and fishing permitted by the law. It is not necessary to buy any other license.

"In case the other resident licenses are desired, two have been provided. The \$2 resident fish and bird license will soon be available. The holder of one of these \$2 licenses is then permitted to purchase a \$1 big game license with elk and deer tags attached.

MONTANA fishermen have often told the story that the most soothing thing to greet their eyes was the sign: "Fishermen Welcome. Angle worms behind the barn. Just call on the boy and he'll dig 'em. Come in when the dinner bell rings." Yet farmer sportsmen in western Montana have stepped out and drawn the hospitality line even closer, according to Senator Ralph R.

Billings Host at Montana Shoot

EXTENSIVE preparations are being made by the Billings Rod and Gun Club for the 38th annual Montana state trapshooting tournament, at the new Billings club grounds on July 17, 18 and 19. The shoot last year was held at Butte and the year preceding at Helena. The Billings club has completed one of the most attractive homes in the northwest and prevailing indications presage a record attendance. It is predicted that the record held by the Helena club in 1929, when 124 shooters attended, will be broken at Billings this year.

Equipment for night shooting is provided at the Billings club and this attractive feature of the scattergun sport is expected to attract many to the nocturnal events.

The dates have been arranged by the Billings club to avoid conflicting with those of Wyoming. The Wyoming state shoot will be held at Rawlins on July 10, 11 and 12. The North Dakota shoot will be held at Bismarck on July 19, 20 and 21.

The annual state telegraphic tournament, sponsored by the Montana Standard of Butte, started Sunday, April 12, with eight gun clubs throughout the state competing and was won by the Anaconda club. The shoot-off of the telegraphic race will be held at the state shoot at Billings.

The law requires that these tags shall be immediately attached to the animal after killing and remain on the carcass until it is consumed.

"In connection with The Sportsman's License as well as the resident big game license is a return post-card self-addressed to the State Fish and Game Department, on which the holder is required to answer questions regarding game killed prior to January 1. These cards must be detached from the license and mailed to the department at Helena so that a count may be made and regulations formulated for any necessary revision in regulations. Violation of the law regarding attaching big game tags or failure to return the post-card is declared a misdemeanor by the legislature.

"The Sportsman's License is the document to purchase. It covers the entire situation and shows that the holder has paid something more than what he considers fishing and hunting are worth. It may be used as a means of identification and is indeed a document of which every purchaser may well be proud."



F. A. Hazelbaker

LIEUTENANT Governor Frank A. Hazelbaker, president of the senate which approved the Montana Sportsman's License plan, is the first man in Beaverhead county to purchase one of the documents of honor. His license is No. 49. It was signed by Robert H. Hill, state fish and game warden at Helena.

"The legislature has made possible a document that sets a precedent in the United States and from present indications the \$5 Sportsman's License will meet an unusual sale in Montana among men and women who are honestly interested in the conservation of our wild life," said Lieutenant Governor Hazelbaker.

"We require more rearing ponds, greater liberation of game birds and more extended protection for big game," he continued. "Our wild life is the greatest individual attraction we have. It brings millions of dollars into the state through tourist channels alone. These dollars are spent with Montana people and mean Montana welfare. At the same time we must continue to build up, restock and restore the supply which is constantly being diminished. The State Fish and Game Department is achieving results that mean much to every resident of the state and they are doing it in a scientific, constructive and businesslike manner which commands commendation. Every Montana resident should own a Montana Sportsman's License. It makes a feller's conscience feel better."

PHEASANT SURVEY IN MISSOURI

Wallace B. Grange, field co-operative agent of the U. S. Biological Survey, has been assigned to conduct a pheasant region survey of Missouri and is now engaged in the task of locating the sections best suited to the natural propagation of English ringneck pheasants. The survey is being made at the request of the State Fish and Game Department and upon Mr. Grange's report will depend the 1931 pheasant egg distribution policy, according to Martin A. Lewis, Jr., chief of Parks and Refuges.

EDUCATION IN PENNSYLVANIA

During the month of February the largest number of educational programs in the history of the Pennsylvania commission were conducted. Fifty-one towns were visited reaching 156,553 persons, over ten thousand of which were high school students.

Conservation Education

EDUCATION is one of the most important factors entering into the conservation of fish and game and other natural resources. Such progress as has been made in Montana is due primarily to that influence. When sportsmen know and realize the facts, they are quick to act, for the winner never quits and the quitter never wins.

Education may come about in several ways. When a game law violator is arrested and prosecuted, that's education. In some cases it might not "take" with the individual, but he has learned something, nevertheless, and his experience is likely to have a wholesome influence on others.

The better form of education, however, is the encouragement of real sportsmanship and the development of conservation sentiment to avert violation. To that end, the Montana Fish and Game department and MONTANA WILD LIFE, its official publication, have received valuable support from organized sportsmen, conservation agencies and individuals. There can be no doubt that an active organization of sportsmen wields a great influence for conservation in the community where it exists, and the more of them there are, the greater will be the scope of that influence.

In carrying on educational campaigns, sportsmen's organizations are coming to realize more and more the importance of interesting the younger generation in their purposes and activities, and as a result, a generation of better sportsmen and conservationists is coming along. Numerous clubs identified with the Montana Sportsmen's Association and chapters of the Montana division of the Izaak Walton League have junior memberships, and several of them are carrying their educational campaigns into the schools. A number of game wardens also make it a practice to talk to the pupils on wild life conservation.

More than his own education along lines of conservation is accomplished by teaching the child, for he passes that information along in the home.

An illustration of what may be accomplished by enlisting the interest and co-operation of the younger generation is presented by the National Association of Audubon Societies. Comparatively few years ago, song birds of all species and their eggs were considered the legitimate prey of boys who boasted of their collection of the latter. But they have been taught that it is wrong to kill birds and rob nests, and today the boy who does such things is mighty unpopular with his fellows.

Sam McKelvie, publisher of the Nebraska Farmer and former governor of Nebraska, who has a summer camp in the Black Hills, once told of an incident that occurred near his cabin:

"'Nope, we can't sell any.' So said a couple of keen-eyed Boy Scouts when asked how much they would take for a nice catch of fish they had made near our cabin. The prospective purchasers meant perfectly well in wishing to buy the fish from the Scouts, and they saw no good reason why the generous price they were willing to pay should not be accepted, but the Scouts knew a good reason, that it was against the law. They probably were aware also that no one ever would have known it had they sold the fish, but it is a part of the training of the Boy Scout not to violate the law under any circumstances, and most of them observe it religiously."

An organization such as this merits the fullest support of all true sportsmen, and it should be an important part of the program of all organizations of sportsmen and conservationists to interest the younger generation of their communities in the work they are doing and to let them know why.

Licenses and Limits

CLASS A—Resident birds and fish.....	\$ 2.00
Class AA—Resident big game with tags. (Must also hold Class A).....	1.00
Class AAA—Resident Sportsman's License.....	5.00
Class B—Nonresident fishing license.....	3.50
Class B-1—Nonresident game birds.....	10.00
Class B-2—Nonresident big game.....	30.00
Class C—Alien fishing	10.00
Class C-1—Alien game bird	30.00
Class C-2—Alien Big game.....	50.00
Class D—Trappers' license	10.00
Class E—Fur dealers' license—Resident.....	1.00
Nonresident	25.00
Fur Dealers' Agent.....	10.00

The Creel Limit

Twenty-five game fish in the aggregate with a net weight of 20 pounds and one fish in one day, with not more than five fish less than seven inches in length. Anglers are permitted to have in their possession this limit at any one time, the law applying alike to fresh game fish, dried, salted or otherwise cured.

It Is Unlawful

To hunt or fish without a license in possession.

To take game fish by any other means than by pole and line in hand.

To shoot game or fur-bearing animals from an automobile.

To shoot at or kill game from a public highway.

To take fish or game by the use of a set-gnn, jack-light, trap, snare, salt lick or similar means.

To shoot at or arouse game birds and animals by the use of an airplane.

To use a power boat or trailer while fishing or hunting.

To use or have in possession a muffler or silencer.

To use or have in possession salmon spawn or imitations.

To hunt deer with dogs.

To hunt on any game preserve, or fish in closed waters.

The Migratory Bird Season

Under a recent order of Secretary of Agriculture Hyde, the federal season on migratory waterfowl has been shortened 15 days. Federal provisions now open the season at noon on October 1, continuing until the end of the year, December 31. The federal season formerly opened September 15, the same date now set by the Montana state law. Hereafter, according to the federal ruling, shooting of ducks, geese, brant, coots and jack-snipe, is lawful after noon of October 1. The season starts 15 days later in the northern states and closes 15 days earlier in the southern states. It is explained that "the shortened seasons are prescribed because of the increased natural hazards the birds are experiencing in reduced feeding, breeding, and resting areas, brought about in part as a result of the unprecedented drought during the last two seasons." The Montana State Fish and Game Commission was not consulted regarding the change of dates and a vigorous protest has been made by the commission. Sportsmen of Montana contend that the northern ducks leave early, that long before the close of the season the ducks have headed southward by thousands and that southern shooters reap the crop of ducks hatched and reared in the north.

And Then Remember

Members of the Montana State Fish and Game Commission are striving diligently to protect the interests of sportsmen through wholesome cooperation as well as to conserve our wild life heritage. If you are in doubt regarding any provision of the law or rule of the commission you are invited in all sincerity to address your inquiry to headquarters at Helena. Your communication will be given prompt attention.

Montana Shooter Wins Acclaim In Europe



MONTANA has again extended her hospitable arms to a resident who achieved international honors, in welcoming E. W. (Ted) Renfro of Dell, Montana, after a series of sensational trapshooting and live bird shooting events in Europe, competing against noblemen and sportsmen of international fame. When he returned to the state, the Butte Gun club made him the honor guest at a banquet May 16 and shoot May 17. Guests from all parts of the state attended. A similar affair will be staged at Dillon.

Plans are being made to have Renfro appear in a squad with Frank Troeh and other champions at the Montana State Fair shoot to be staged by the Helena Gun club. He will likewise be a feature at the state trapshooting tournament at Billings.

Before returning to Montana, Renfro was the guest of many trapshooting clubs. At Minneapolis, his former home, he was extensively feted. The following tribute is paid to him under a Minneapolis date line by The Sportsmen's Review, of which Billy Moore is editor:

"Holder of the international live bird shooting title, a member of the American team which won the recent 'Match des Nations' at Monte Carlo, in which 29 countries were represented, and possessor of an average of 97 per cent on registered clay targets, E. W. (Ted) Renfro on May 5 came 'home' to receive the plaudits of his host of Minneapolis friends for his outstanding achievements.

"Renfro was a resident of Minneapolis from 1923 to 1927, when he was forced to leave the city for Montana because of ill health. During that time he was employed as salesman for a cartridge company here, shooting as a professional. Following his departure from Minneapolis, he retired from shooting for one year to regain his amateur standing. He was the guest of the Twin City Shooting Association and Hennepin County Sportsmen's Club. He is en route from Monte Carlo, where he gained the highest praises of European gun experts, to his home at Dell, Montana. He was honored by Minneapolis sportsmen at a luncheon at the Y. M. C. A.

"Renfro with three other expert shots, left the United States January 7 for an international meet. His companions were Eugene Springer, of New Jersey; Walter Warren of Chicago and S. B. Masten, of the N. Y. A. C., the first named three, as a team, representing the N. Y. A. C. In winning the live bird title, Renfro killed 29 of a possible 30 pigeons, accepted as a truly remarkable record. The feat won him 51,640 francs—something over \$2,000. This was the first time since

Honors Won by Renfro

THE following is a list of the wins made at Monte Carlo this year by the widely known E. W. ("Ted") Renfro, of Dell, Mont.:
 Tir Aux Pigeons—Monte Carlo, Match des Nations, 1931.
 Championnat Dv. Monde, 1931, Federation Internationale de Tir, Ava Armes de Chasse.
 Tir Aux Pigeons de Monaco, Prix des Marchais, 1931.
 Tir Aux Pigeons Demonaco, 1931, 15E Championnat Triennial.
 Tir Aux Pigeons D'Arcachon, 1931, Grand Prix.
 (Above all gold medals.)
 Match des Nations, 1931, Monaco, replica of cup.
 Coupe Caunier, 1931, reachon, silver cup.
 (These last two silver cups.)

Renfro went to Europe in January with S. B. Masten of New York (captain); W. G. Warren, Chicago, and E. B. Springer, Philadelphia.

1883 that an American has won this title.

"Following this outstanding performance, Renfro and his teammates won

Clubs In Drive For New Licenses

SPORTSMEN of Missoula and its tributary territory, particularly those who are members of the Western Montana Sportsmen's Association, are completing plans for the organization of a subsidiary club intended to further the sale of the Sportsman's License at \$5, authorized by the last session of Montana's legislature. Similar Sportsman's License clubs are being planned in other centers where large clubs prevail. Predictions are being freely made that thousands of these honor documents will be sold after the opening of the fishing season on May 21.

The Montana Sportsman's License was fostered in the legislature by Senator Ralph R. Tower of Lake county. Under Montana's new license law the charge for a resident fishing and game bird license remains at \$2. The holder of a \$2 license may then buy a \$1 big game license equipped with tags which, by law, must be attached to each elk or deer killed. The Sportsman's License, however, is to be issued to all lovers of the out of doors who are deeply interested in the propagation and conservation of fish and game and the price is \$5. The Sportsman's License extends no greater privileges except the knowledge that the holder has contributed a small fee in advance of the required amount, in order that greater funds may be created to maintain Montana's fame as a playground of the nation.

the 'Match des Nations' contest with 70 kills out of a possible 75 Renfro's score in this race was 24 out of 25. Warren and Spring each made scores of 23. The winners received 60,000 francs—around \$2,500.

"Monte Carlo has 250 days a year of shooting. Outstanding live bird shots from all over the world compete in the annual event, and pari-mutuel machines govern the enormous amount of betting. Shooting, by the way, is the only sports event at this famous resort, and the Monte Carlo Gun Club adds thousands of dollars to the program.

"But Renfro's claim to fame does not by any means rest with his performances in France. On several occasions he has won the high average clay target title of Montana. At the 1923 Grand American tournament, held in Chicago, he carried off the champion of champions event after a hot shoot-off with the famous Mark Arie. They had tied in the regular event with 197 out of a possible 200 each, and in the shoot-off the Montanan broke 74 out of 75 targets in three shoot-offs to win.

"Renfro also has won the Montana State singles championship and handicap several times. In 1929 he established the remarkable record of 96x100 from the 25-yard mark to tie for the state handicap title. In the shoot-off that followed, he was steady enough to break 25 straight targets to win top honors. In addition to these, Renfro captured the doubles title of the world at Dayton, Ohio, last August, with 191 breaks out of a possible 200. He won the national and international titles at live birds in 1922 and 1928, respectively, at Kansas City.

"Ted is well known to Minneapolis sportsmen. He numbers many friends in the Hennepin County Sportsmen's Club and also the Twin City Shooting Association. These know him not only as an expert shot at the traps, but in the field and as a skillful fisherman.

"At his last appearance at Capt. Billy Fawcett's Breezy Point shooting grounds at Pequot, Minn., he broke 591x600 targets and defeated a world known field of crack target shooters.

"Since his return from Monte Carlo on April 27, he has been feted by the N. Y. A. C. and other organizations. En route to Minneapolis he was the guest of honor at a dinner given by the Milwaukee Gun Club. About 60 shooters were at the banquet in Minneapolis.

"Renfro is a native of Kansas and came of a shooting family near Atchison. His father and uncles being active trapshooters 25 or 30 years ago, and "Ted" was an early protege of Ed O'Brien."

BOOK ENDS

Salesman—How about some of these nice bronze book ends?

Gloomy Fellow—No, she might throw them at me.



Galloping Grizzlies

By Allen Shupert of Whitefish, Montana



AFTER reading an article in the March issue of MONTANA WILD LIFE regarding the speed of a coyote, I recall an incident which, in my mind, is somewhat more astounding.

One Sunday in the autumn of 1928 my son and I were on our way to spend the day fishing at Spotted Bear river. We were driving along the highway on the South Fork of Flathead river, when suddenly we saw an object ahead of us. At a distance, it resembled an incongruous looking snag, but as we came closer, the snag became decidedly animate, and took the form of a Silver Tip.

Mr. Grizzly, apparently aroused from a mid-day nap, took to the road before he was fully awake. At the time the speedometer was registering nearly 30 miles per hour. We applied the brake as bruin landed on the highway, but he started off with such agility that it was not necessary to cut the speed to lower than 20 miles per hour in order to stay behind him.

The highway at this point was perfectly straight, and there were no cars coming from the opposite direction, so our race was not interrupted. The grizzly, of course, runs in a clumsy gallop, bringing his hind feet almost parallel with his fore feet. Bruin, not having a great deal of respect for automobiles, threw the gravel to a distance of 15 or 20 feet every time he brought up his rear paws. My son was driving the car, so I peered outside the windshield, only to jerk my head back of the protecting glass as a hailstorm of gravel struck my face from Bruin's rear propellers.

Going at the pace of 20 miles per hour, with the hair on his back standing erect, the bear's back was not unlike a bunch of grass waving in the wind. The silver coat, the hair of which was at least five inches in length, made a pretty sight as it glistened in the sun's rays.

We held the pace of 20 miles an hour for a stretch of nearly three miles, when we saw that Mr. Grizzly was lagging somewhat in spirits as well as in endurance. We retarded the pace to 15 miles an hour, and held that for over a mile. By this time we were nearing a road camp, and the bear, sensing danger ahead as well as to the rear, decided to turn off the road about a hundred yards from the camp. By that time he was pretty well exhausted, and as he turned aside, his tongue was extended several inches, not unlike that of a dog who has chased a jackrabbit unsuccessfully for a long distance. As Bruin left the road, heading for the river, he came

to a deadfall about two feet in height. Instead of leaping over this, as he would have done under ordinary circumstances, he stumbled, and fairly fell over it.

We proceeded to Spotted Bear, and had a very successful fishing trip, but our race with the grizzly was by far the most interesting event of the day.

Glenn T. Davis For Sportsman's License

GLENN T. DAVIS, former representative from Wibaux county and speaker of the house of representatives, has acquired an early number of the Montana Sportsman's License, authorized by the last session of the legislative assembly.

"This license has more than ordinary significance to me," said Mr. Davis. "It is bound to result in the transformation of the fishing and hunting thoughts of many sportsmen of Montana. The

holder of this document of honor will not only hesitate to violate the game laws but will go out of his way to see that they are observed. It is hard to believe that a man whose car bears the striking windshield sticker reading: 'Montana Sportsman's License, 1931,' is not a better citizen, a more conscientious leader of his community and a prouder resident of Montana, than if he had not taken the opportunity to acquire this license.

"This new Montana license is another demonstration of leadership in fish and game conservation in the nation. No other state has ever attempted the plan, and it is the talk of sportsmen of the state. I have travelled extensively through the west since the legislature made the plan possible and on trains and in hotels, it is a popular topic of conversation. The plan is commended by sportsmen of Montana as well as by those of other states."

EVERYTHING ELSE BUT

"Has your husband any hobbies?" asked the neighbor who was calling.

"No," said Mrs. Tugge, "he has rheumatiz a good deal, and hives now and then, but he ain't never had no hobbies."

Trout Churn Cold Waters at Spawning Stations



HERE'S a pool choked with speckled big fellows and their playmates at the spawning station, vainly endeavoring to get beyond the barrier in the creek bed. They are held in ripening pools until in condition for artificial stripping, then returned to the waters without injury. The photo is by Paul J. Fair.

The Vanished and the Vanishing

Prepared for the Florida Fish and Game Commission by R. W. Williams



XTINCT is a disagreeable word—it grates upon the senses—especially when associated with useful, beautiful and otherwise interesting forms of animate Nature. Yet, the story must be told—it has been told before—and were well to be told repeatedly lest the warning be forgotten.

In the memory of some men, the Great Auk or Garefowl, an abundant, flightless, handsome, and interesting bird of large proportions, inhabiting the coast and islands of the north Atlantic nearly to the Arctic Circle, was swept from the earth by the ruthless hand of man. It became extinct about 1842, and all that remains to tell the tale are a few skins and eggs and some bones carefully guarded in museums and private collections. It was clubbed, shot, and otherwise persecuted and its nests destroyed by fishermen, both in a spirit of wantonness and on the pretext that its flesh and eggs were needed for food.

The Pallas' Cormorant, said to have been the largest of the family of Cormorants, which inhabited the region around Bering Sea, became extinct about 1850. It was an abundant bird but could not survive man's persecution. It, too, was killed for food and wantonly by natives and fishermen. Four skins and a few bones are all that remain of this fine bird.

The Labrador Duck, which bore a rather close relationship to the Eider Ducks, with a breeding range from Labrador northward and migrating in winter as far south as Long Island, New York, became extinct about 1875. It was killed for market, its nests robbed and feathers sought for domestic purposes. Some 42 specimens are said to exist in museums and private collections.

The story of the Passenger Pigeon is familiar history to the older generation. Here was a bird ranging in flocks of countless millions from the Rocky Mountain region to the Atlantic Ocean and from the fur countries of Canada to the Gulf of Mexico. So abundant was it that as late as 1857 a select committee of the Ohio legislature reported on a bill to protect it that "The passenger pigeon needs no protection. Wonderfully prolific, having the vast forests of the north as its breeding grounds, traveling hundreds of miles in search of food, it is here today and elsewhere tomorrow, and no ordinary destruction can lessen them, or be missed from the myriads that are yearly produced." Yet, the bird became practically extinct between 1880 and 1890 and absolutely so on September 1, 1914, when the last survivor held in

Relics of Other Days



HERE'S an attractive pile of antlers of the elk herd maintained on the federal bison reserve at Moiese, Mont. This herd has been considerably cut down in size in order that the range may be saved for the buffalo. The antlers, whitened with snows of many winters and bleaching of springs, have been picked up on the range where they have been shed by monarchs of Montana forests, and left in this heap. The size of the pile may be gauged from the height of the girl. The picture is submitted by Dr. J. A. Donovan of Butte.

captivity in the Zoological Garden at Cincinnati, Ohio, died.

Passenger Pigeons were killed or netted on their breeding grounds and elsewhere "by the wagon-load," and prior to the '70s the markets were glutted with their dead bodies, so much so that in some of the larger cities of the north they sold as low as 12 cents a dozen. The Passenger Pigeon was overtaken by the inevitable fate that awaits any wild bird allowed to be marketed for food or other purposes.

The Heath Hen, one of the Grouse family, much resembling the western

Prairie Chicken and the eastern Ruffed Grouse, in early colonial days abounded in the northeastern states, from Maine to the Carolinas. It was rather an unwary bird and easy prey for the market hunters and those who pursued it for sport or food. By 1870 it was exterminated on the mainland and all that remained of the race were confined to the island of Martha's Vineyard in Massachusetts. It there survived, under extreme measures of protection in late years adopted by the State Department of Conservation involving an expenditure of some \$70,000, augmented by large sums contributed from outside sources, though from effect of fires and disease gradually diminishing as the years passed, until 1930, when the species was reduced to one bird. The species is extinct—one bird cannot perpetuate its kind.

The Carolina Paroquet, or Parrakeet as often written, had an extensive range throughout the eastern section of the United States. It was an abundant bird, very sociable, and ranged and bred in large flocks. It was abundant in Florida where it made its last stand. It was the only one of the great order of parrots that has inhabited the United States in historic times. Its yellow and green plumage was beautiful to look upon—and, alas, one of the contributing factors to its extirpation. In 1904, a flock of 13 birds was reported to have been seen near Lake Okeechobee. Some few may have been seen since, at least up to the last 20 years. But if any now survive they have wholly escaped the assiduous search of naturalists. It was killed in large numbers by agriculturists, who believed it destructive to some crops, by wanton sportsmen, and by military agents, and was trapped extensively by professional bird-catchers.

The Eskimo Curlew, smallest of the Curlews, was in its day one of the most numerous birds in North America, in numbers second only to Passenger Pigeons, if, indeed, it was not quite as abundant. It bred in the Barren Grounds of Canada, migrating in August to Labrador and Newfoundland where it fed on curlew berries and

SPORTSMEN---

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MONTANA WILD LIFE



snails until extremely fat. Thence it set out over-sea for South America where it wintered, chiefly in Argentina and Patagonia. As spring approached it wended its way back to its breeding grounds, but by an entirely different course—through Texas and up the western Mississippi valley. E. H. Forbush, whose facile ornithological pen nevermore can delight and instruct us, has truly said that the Eskimo Curlew's destruction followed that of the Passenger Pigeon, whose place it took in the markets of the country. Wagon-loads were killed as it passed through the Mississippi valley, and the South Americans took their toll in winter. By 1892 they had ceased to exist in large numbers and since that time few have been seen in any portion of their range. The last taken in the west was in 1915. It is reported that one was captured in Argentina in January, 1925. Without doubt the curtain has fallen on the Eskimo Curlew.

These birds have passed into oblivion. Others are fast approaching.

Speaker Strong For New License Plan



“EVERY man who appreciates the value of the out of doors of Montana should be a holder of the \$5 Sportsman's License, provided by the last legislature," said W. R. Flachsenhar, representative from Prairie county and speaker of the house during the last assembly. "Under the Sportsman's License the holder is granted all privileges permitted under the state fish and game laws," said Speaker Flachsenhar. "It likewise gratifies him with the knowledge that he has contributed a sum in excess of the charge of \$2 for the resident hunting and fishing license and \$1 for the resident big game license. He glories in the fact that his additional dollars have been placed where the fish and game commission may continue its constructive campaign of conservation of wild life of the state. Fish and game taken from streams and forests of the state are valued at many times the cost of the license fee, yet we have been hobbling along in the belief that nature would restore conditions. It can't be done. Money is required to rear and distribute fish, to rear and liberate game birds, construct rearing ponds, build dykes for migratory water fowl and countless other necessities. That's why the Sportsman's License should be held by every man."

To My Cayuse Cristel Hastings

You're growin' old, dear pal o' mine,
Your halting step, like mine, is slow—
But, oh, we've got the sage brush hills
About us everywhere we go!
Your eyes are dim—well, so are mine—
As we go down a hazy trail,
But, pal, we've seen the sun an' stars
An' skies where fairy craft set sail!

It's well nigh half a score o' years
Since you first felt my eager hand
Touchin' your bridle, an' somehow
It seems you always understand.
We've seen mirage o' water holes
Half faintin' in the burnin' sands,
We've stumbled on, pal, you and I,
With achin' souls in desert lands.

We've seen gray tumbleweeds speed by
On phantom trails—we've made our
bed
With stars our only roof at night,
Your saddle, pal, beneath my head.
An' now—the end o' our long trail
Looms near, into the sunset's glow—
But, pal, I'm with you to the end,
Beyond may be a trail we'll know.

NATURE-FAKING

Do birds think? A correspondent writes that some robins that were in the habit of using his bird bath arrived one morning to find it frozen over. A consultation was held and one robin flew off and fetched a woodpecker, which soon made a hole big enough for their purpose. Do birds think? Ask us another.

THE BARBLESS HOOK

After all, most of our fisherman take to our waters for the sport of angling, and not for the meat that they might bring home. If it were only for the meat, most of us could buy more fish at the market for the money expended on the average fishing. Such being the case, the use of the barbless hook should be worth at least a trial to the average angler, not only for sportsmanship, but as a conservation measure. Many small fishes, caught on barbed hooks and then returned to the water, fail to recover from the lacerations following the removal of such a hook. The use of a barbless hook would eliminate much of this useless waste, and add a sporting angle to even the most plebian form of fishing.

SPEED OF SHARP-TAIL GROUSE

We often read of the flight speed of ducks and geese but it is seldom that any definite information is made available on the speed of upland game birds.

District Chief Warden Joe Brickner of Minnesota is responsible for the following bit of information on this subject which he garnered on a trip through his territory.

About daylight recently he was traveling along the highway when a sharp-tailed grouse got up along the road and flew parallel to it. Chief Brickner slackened his speed a trifle until he was behind and pacing the flying bird. After a half mile the grouse crossed the road and still continued parallel to it until a meadow was reached, where the bird joined ten others grazing there. In all a distance of over a mile and a half was covered and the speedometer remained quite steadily at 33 miles an hour—a good speed when the apparent ease of the sharp-tail's flight is considered.

Plentywood Club In Predatory Drive

MEMBERS of the Plentywood Chapter of the Izaak Walton League have the honor of being the first to enter the annual predatory bird and animal drive conducted by the State Fish and Game Department. Prizes totalling \$500 have been offered to clubs of sportsmen throughout the state for the drive on enemies of wild life.

According to word received from S. E. Paul, president of the Plentywood chapter, the committee selected to handle the drive includes: Chairman C. B. Peterson, Niels Madsen and Walter Raess, all of Plentywood.

According to the rules of the contest, the committee selected in each club, is held responsible for correct count and returns from the drive must be at Fish and Game headquarters at Helena by January 1, 1932.

Other clubs of sportsmen throughout the state are preparing to enter the contest, according to Robert H. Hill, State Fish and Game Warden.

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Montana Sportsmen's Association

PICTURES AT HARDIN

SPORTSMEN of eastern Montana who have not yet had the opportunity of viewing the moving pictures of wild life, prepared under direction of the State Fish and Game Commission, welcomed the arrival of the seven reels of Montana pictures at Hardin as a feature of the meeting of the South-eastern Montana Sportsmen's Association May 23. Medicine men of the tribes sent out the call to the meeting, when the braves of the Big Horn Rod and Gun Club acted as hosts to visitors from throughout the state, at the annual pow-wow. Officers of the Southern Montana Sportsmen's Association are: A. H. Bowman of Hardin, president; S. G. Tonkin of Billings, vice president; G. W. Fenton of Laurel, secretary-treasurer, and W. C. Phillips, in charge of fish distribution.

The thrilling pictures of spawn taking, the game farm, big game and migratory waterfowl, have been displayed to crowds at Wilsall, White Sulphur Springs, Lewistown, Harlem, Malta, Glasgow, Sidney, Bainville, Culbertson, Froid, Plentywood, Glendive, Miles City, Forsyth; and will be at Fromberg on May 27, Red Lodge on May 28, and Columbus on May 29th.

The pictures are being shown by B. F. Gerry, educational secretary of the State Fish and Game Commission.

CONTRIBUTING MEMBERSHIPS

THE Society of American Foresters, Northern Rocky Mountain section, was the first organization to take one of the new Associate Memberships in the Montana Sportsmen's Association. Many individuals will undoubtedly want to assist the association in its efforts to perpetuate Montana's wild life and the following contributing memberships are now available:

Assisting Membership (individual)	\$ 5.00
Associate Membership (individual or firm)	10.00
Sustaining Membership (individual or firm)	25.00
Contributing Membership (individual or firm)	50.00
Promoting Membership (individual or firm)	100.00

LIVINGSTON TO HAVE CLUB

AT a joint meeting of the Rotary, Kiwanis and Commercial clubs held at Livingston on April 27, plans were laid for the organization of a sportsman's club. Six reels of Montana wild life were shown. During the afternoon the pictures were shown to 1,600 school pupils and general public.

CLUB ACTIVITIES

THE clubs at Manhattan and Wilsall were recently reorganized. Plans are being made for a club at White Sulphur Springs. The secretary will spend two weeks in the eastern part of the state in May and several new clubs will join.

Just Around the Corner



NOTICE the wise old bird of the flock peeping over the snow on the side hill? His nose knows. He's ever on the alert to protect his flock of Montana mountain goats. The mountain sheep, incidentally, is of the big horn variety. These goat fellows wear the spike of black instead of the huge curled horn of the sheep. The picture was taken in the snow of Yellowstone park and is submitted by Joseph Joffre.

PREDATORY BIRD AND ANIMAL CONTEST

AT the annual meeting of the State Fish and Game Commission it was decided to give \$500 to this contest again this year. It is hoped that every club in the state will be active in it. It offers an opportunity for the clubs to destroy predators that prey upon our wild life and at the same time to get some of this prize money for activities of the clubs. In 1927 during the contest the following were taken by the 10 clubs competing:

Mt. Lions	10	Crows	3336
Wolves	1	Kingfishers ..	147
Coyotes	2050	Groundhogs ..	4370
Lynx	29	Gophers ..	96,373
Bobcats	98	Hawk eggs ..	447
Weasel	1066	Owl eggs ..	806
Hawks	1465	Magpie eggs ..	18071
Owls	678	Crow eggs ..	4245
Magpies	25269		

SOME GLUM DAY

Some time in the distant future, a learned professor will dig up a skeleton, and after much research the world will get this information: "This is the skeleton of a native Montana trout. Very plentiful in the early part of the 19th century. Became extinct a short time later."

RECENT MEETINGS

PICTURES were shown at Hamilton in the afternoon, April 1, to 320 sportsmen and general public with a meeting of the club following. The club voted to install a fish screen. Hamilton has always been active in predatory bird and animal contests, planting fish and many other activities.

'Twas a dark and stormy night with a blizzard raging but over 200 loyal supporters at Ennis saw several reels of wild life pictures with a good meeting of the club following. The Ennis club also intends to assist in the installation of a fish screen this year and to continue activities carried on by the club.

During the afternoon of April 24, pictures were shown to 600 grade school pupils and 150 at the State Agricultural College at Bozeman. They were also shown in the evening at the annual banquet of the Bozeman Rod and Gun Club. Over 200 sportsmen attended the banquet.

The evening of April 25, pictures were shown to 300 in the Manhattan theater and was followed by a meeting of 20 enthusiastic sportsmen at which time the Rod and Gun Club was reorganized. The club is in favor of having two deputy game wardens appointed without pay to help protect the fish and birds in the Manhattan game refuge. The club expects to have a larger membership than in previous years.

Livingston organized a new sportsmen's club April 27 at a joint meeting of the Rotary, Kiwanis and Commercial clubs. Pictures were shown in the afternoon to 1,600 school pupils and general public and at the evening meeting to 50 in attendance.

CROWS GO FISHING

The inventive chap who set the alarm to yank a string to close the window to turn the switch to boil the coffee had nothing on Roy Lawhorn, district game warden of Kansas. With the nesting season of wild life in the offing, Lawhorn found himself hard pushed in his battle against crows, notorious burglars and bandits of bird-dom. All potential crow-shooters seemed to be turning to hook and line—and to the old practice of killing rabbits for their livers, prized as bait for channel catfish. This practice was also worrying Lawhorn. So he went into seclusion to cogitate and experiment, and came forth to broadcast a discovery.

"Crow liver is more attractive to fish than rabbit liver," he announced. "Crow liver is undoubtedly the best bait of all."

Now nimrods are ignoring the rabbits and banging crows as a prelude to angling.